

BACK TO PRABHUPADA

The magazine of the real Hare Krishna movement

Issue 31, Spring 2011

"Defeating tyranny in the realm of thought"

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Prabhupada Only Paradigm

Also in this issue:

"Jumping over" Prabhupada

Guru con in action

Yet another climbdown

Guru wars continue



ISKCON Revival Movement

Guru hoax: Merely a symptom of a greater disease



BACK TO PRABHUPADA

Published quarterly

Founded under the inspiration of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada, Founder-Acarya, International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON)

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Welcome to Issue 31 of *Back To Prabhupada (BTP)*.

While *BTP* is primarily a vehicle for publishing the truth about Srila Prabhupada and exposing the charlatans cheating others in his name, a relatively large portion of *BTP* consists of submissions from devotees around the world, relating how *BTP* has helped, inspired, challenged and affected them. To facilitate this communication, we have re-designed the layout of the magazine. Henceforward, all devotee feedback will be grouped together in one easy-to-find, integral, seamless section entitled "*BTP Interactive*", for which the middle third of the magazine will be dedicated. We invite devotees to continue contributing their stories, realisations and challenges.

In this issue, spread over the next 4 pages, we detail a fundamental framework, known as the "Prabhupada-Only Paradigm" ("POP"). The POP both explains the cause of so many deviations perpetrated by those claiming to follow Srila Prabhupada, as well as offering a basis to resolve them. As the POP explains, deviation can be avoided by simply understanding that Srila Prabhupada's instructions must be the exclusive source which determines every action taken. The "exclusive" basis here is key, for even if one accepts Srila Prabhupada's instructions as the general basis, allowing non-Prabhupada sources of guidance to creep in, in even a handful of cases, can make a huge difference.

Consequently, deviations we have documented in *BTP*, such as commercialisation, Hinduisation, secularisation, and so on, can all be traced back to not adhering to the POP. Thus, deviation is symptomatic of a lack of understanding; in this case the POP, which simply states that no action can be taken unless one can first produce a corresponding order from Srila Prabhupada to that effect.

Such misunderstanding, in turn, is itself a symptom of being self-motivated:

"As soon as personal motivation comes in it is not possible for one to understand our Krishna Consciousness philosophy."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 21/9/1970)

This self-motivation may cause delusion, so that one's intelligence is bewildered and therefore unable to understand the obvious, such as needing to adhere to the POP. Or, it may simply cause one to cheat, so even if one can see what needs to be done - that, for example, the POP needs to be followed - self-motivation will ensure one avoids doing so. Instead, different "label-hoaxes" are used to try to cover one's real intentions. So, in the GBC guru hoax, "The Great Guru Hoax, Part 2", Srila Prabhupada is for all intents and purposes presented like everyone's guru. But his label is switched from "*diksa*" (initiating) and "*siksa*" (instructing) to only "*siksa*", to allow the guru hoaxers to slip in to carve out a position for

themselves. And in the *ritvik*-guru hoax, "The Great Guru Hoax, Part 3" (see *BTP* 19), even the correct label is used for Srila Prabhupada's position as a cover to achieve the same result of taking power and continuing with the same guru hoaxer practices of Hinduisation, commercialisation, etc. One is happy to cede both different labels and different degrees of honour and worship to Srila Prabhupada, simply as a vehicle to obtain different reflected degrees of profit, honour and distinction for oneself.

Thus, possible differences between the IRM and others, whether it is to do with the guru issue, or any other issues, are usually just symptoms of not adhering strictly to the POP due to misunderstanding (whether intentional or not). And the IRM, through *BTP* and its other publications, is continually exposing and highlighting this constant misunderstanding of what Srila Prabhupada has ordered, resulting in the regular contradiction, gibberish and "error in every sentence" which we are forever documenting. And the fact that much of this misunderstanding is sought to be "hidden" via label-hoaxes and other devices, has not at all deterred the IRM in uncovering the truth.

Please feel free to write to me at the following email address: irm@iskconirm.com.

Thank you and Hare Krishna.

Yours in the service of Srila Prabhupada,

Krishnakant

IRM Mission Statement

Since the physical departure of His Divine Grace A. C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada from our material vision on November 14th, 1977, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON), the great movement which he single-handedly founded in 1966, and which is the only hope for humanity, has undergone a massive deterioration in its spiritual purity. This has been due to various deviations from the instructions and standards given by Srila Prabhupada, the chief of which being his displacement as the sole *diksa* guru for ISKCON. The ISKCON Revival Movement (IRM) seeks to restore ISKCON to its former glory, purity and philosophical chastity through the re-institution of all the instructions and standards that Srila Prabhupada gave, beginning with his role as the sole authority and *diksa* guru for ISKCON. The IRM's position is set out in *The Final Order* - see back page to order your free copy.



Prabhupada-Only Paradigm- 1: Evidence

The conclusions we reach will depend on what statements we accept as constituting authoritative evidence.

Only Srila Prabhupada

The IRM follows the maxim that only orders coming directly from Srila Prabhupada are relevant in determining how ISKCON should be run. Indeed, the Governing Body Commission (GBC) of ISKCON was set up specifically with this mandate:

"The GBC accepts as its life and soul His divine instructions and recognizes that it is completely dependent on His mercy in all respects. The GBC has no other function or purpose other than to execute the instructions so kindly given by His Divine Grace and preserve and spread his Teachings to the world in their pure form."

(Definition of GBC, first ever GBC Resolution, 1975)

However, as we shall now show, this has not stopped the GBC and others from deviating from this fundamental maxim in a variety of ways.

No evidence needed

Many of the pillars of the guru hoax are based on simply dispensing with the need for Srila Prabhupada's authority altogether. For example it is claimed:

- "The guru must be 'living'."
- "Ritvik is wrong because it has never happened before."

But Srila Prabhupada has never stated that the guru must be "living" in the sense of physically present (rather he says the guru is *always living*), or that he will never issue unprecedented orders. Rather, such statements are made simply assuming that it is "obvious" they are correct. One can state any number of allegations and assumptions, but only a direct quote from Srila Prabhupada will make them true.

Outside Srila Prabhupada

Sources outside of Srila Prabhupada are also put forward as evidence. One example is "jumping over" Srila Prabhupada and attempting to directly consult previous *acaryas* (see article on next page for more detail). Or one will simply consult other *sampradayas*, other organisations, or "senior" devotees, to try to garner support for conclusions which are not given by Srila Prabhupada. The GBC has relied on all of these different variations at different times. But, if a particular conclusion was actually supported by Srila Prabhupada, one could simply quote Srila Prabhupada, and that would be that. It's only if one is unable to find evidence from Srila Prabhupada supporting a particular conclusion, that one will need to resort to looking outside Srila Prabhupada's words.

Sometimes the "guru, sadhu and sastra" principle is invoked as an excuse to try to go outside Srila Prabhupada's words. But this makes no sense, since all three, *guru, sadhu* and *sastra*, are always in line, and, therefore, one does not need to independently verify Srila Prabhupada's statements with any other source:

"Sadhu, sastra and guru. Guru means who follows the sastra and sadhu. So there are three, the same."

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 30/11/1976).

Thus, there is never any need to directly quote any source other than Srila Prabhupada to establish a conclusion regarding what Srila Prabhupada ordered.

"Prabhupada said"

In order to verify that a statement actually comes from Srila Prabhupada, one would need to have it available as a primary source; through his writings or directly recorded via tape or film. However, the GBC routinely relies on the "testimony" of sec-

ondary "Prabhupada said" statements, from those claiming that Srila Prabhupada told them something. For example, in the GBC's position paper *Prabhupada's Order*, we find the following quote presented as being one of a list of "quotes from Srila Prabhupada":

"You each be guru," he said. "As I have five thousand disciples or ten thousand, so you have ten thousand each. In this way, create branches and branches of the Chaitanya tree. (Mayapur GBC meetings 1976)." (Prabhupada's Order, GBC)

But further investigation reveals that the above quote does not actually come directly from Srila Prabhupada in 1976, but from the personal diary of GBC apologist, Hari Sauri Das, published in 1992. Indeed, due to such "Prabhupada saids" abounding even when Srila Prabhupada was on the planet, Srila Prabhupada issued instructions such as the following:

"...just like in our ISKCON there are so many false things: "Prabhupada said this, Prabhupada said that.""

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 7/11/1972)

"They misunderstand me. Unless it is there from me in writing, there are so many things that "Prabhupada said.""

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 2/9/1975)

Therefore, to be certain that an order is actually from Srila Prabhupada, we can rely only on evidence which can be authenticated as directly coming from Srila Prabhupada.

Misrepresentation

Finally, even once we get to the stage of accepting only Srila Prabhupada's verified orders as constituting evidence, it becomes meaningless if one deliberately claims Srila Prabhupada said something which he did not! For example, in the GBC paper *Disciple of My Disciple*, they quote the fol-

lowing exchange from the May 28th, 1977 Room Conversation:

Satsvarupa: "So they may also be considered your disciples."

Prabhupada: "Yes, they are disciples. Why consider? Who?"

And then claim, regarding this exchange above:

"Satsvarupa Maharaja again suggests the possibility of proxy initiation. Srila Prabhupada could say yes, but he does not."

(*Disciple of My Disciple*, GBC)

So Srila Prabhupada clearly says "yes" (bold underlined), and the GBC pretends he does not! Another example of misrepresentation is to claim that Srila Prabhupada's repeating Lord Caitanya's order to "become guru" refers to *diksa* gurus, by simply ignoring Srila Prabhupada's accompanying statement to this order - that **"it is best not to accept any disciples"** (*Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, Madhya-lila*, 7:128-130, purport).

Conclusion

If we return to a world where -

- a) only the directly recorded orders of Srila Prabhupada count
- b) all claims must be backed directly by Srila Prabhupada's directly recorded orders

c) we accept the direct meaning of Srila Prabhupada's words, without any change or omission

- then everything becomes simple, clear and easy to follow. Indeed, anyone who reads IRM publications will see that we take apart the papers we are rebutting, simply by following these three simple techniques.

And applying these three techniques leads us to certain indisputable conclusions, such as:

1) Srila Prabhupada is the *diksa* guru of ISKCON.

2) Srila Prabhupada ordered that people joining ISKCON will become initiated by him via the use of *ritviks* (officiating priests).

3) There are no orders from Srila Prabhupada which will lead to 1) and 2) changing.

Prabhupada-Only Paradigm- 2: Jumping over

In the previous article, one instance given of not relying solely on the authority of Srila Prabhupada's words is going outside Srila Prabhupada's books to directly approach the teachings of the previous *acaryas* (spiritual masters).

No "jumping over"

In his books Srila Prabhupada states that the books of the previous *acaryas* should be read. However, separately, Srila Prabhupada also tells us how these books should be accessed and read. Srila Prabhupada states that the teachings of the previous *acaryas* must be accessed only through the current *acarya*, and any other access is forbidden and known as "jumping over":

"Suppose I have heard something from my spiritual master, so I speak to you the same thing. So this is *parampara* system. You cannot imagine what my spiritual master said. Or even if you read some books, you cannot understand unless you understand it from me. This is called *parampara* system. You cannot jump over to the superior guru, neglecting the next *acarya*, immediate next *acarya*." (Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 8/12/1973)

"You cannot jump over. You must go through the *parampara* system. You have to approach through your spiritual master to the Gosvamis." (Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 28/3/1975)

"in order to receive the real message of *Srimad-Bhagavatam* one should approach the current link, or spiritual master, in the chain of disciplic succession."

(*Srimad-Bhagavatam*, 2.9.7, purport)

And the current *acarya*, which as the IRM has proven consistently beyond doubt (see *The Final Order*, every BTP issue and all IRM papers on our website), is Srila Prabhupada.

No going outside

Consequently, in line with this current-link principle, Srila Prabhupada insisted that in ISKCON only his books are read:

"There is no need by any of my disciples to read any books besides my books - in fact, such reading may be detrimental to their advancement in Krishna Consciousness."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 20/1/1972)

"Regarding the Gaudiya Math books being circulated there, who is distributing? [...] These books should not at all be circulated in our Society. [...] You say that you would read only one book if that was all that I had written, so you teach others to do like that. You have very good determination."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 14/11/1973)

"Brahmananda Swami has read me your letter regarding the students there reading other books. I request you to stop this practice."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 13/10/1973)

"It is good to hold more classes with the *bhaktas*, but they should all be on the basis of our books. You should not go beyond the jurisdiction of our teaching."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 26/1/1977)

Authorised source

Srila Prabhupada gave us access to the books of the previous *acaryas* through his own writings. His aim was:

"to give you so many nice literatures like the *Vedas*, *Upanisads*, *Puranas*, *Ramayana*, *Mahabharata*, and other books in our own Gaudiya line, like Rupa Goswami, Sanatana Goswami, Visvanatha Cakravarti and others. So if the GBC which I have appointed for this task will kindly now assist me in this way, by handling very expertly and with all good consideration all matters of managing, I shall

devote my full time to giving you further nice books."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 16/2/1972)

And he gave us *Bhakti-rasamrta-sindhu* (Nectar of Devotion) and *Sri Upadesamrta* (Nectar of Instruction) by Rupa Goswami, *Sri Caitanya-caritamrta* by Srila Krsnadasa Kaviraja Goswami, and so on.

Therefore, we are meant to read the works of the previous *acaryas* only via what Srila Prabhupada has given us. And, where he felt it was suitable to read such works directly, he would specifically authorise them to be published by the BBT, such as Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura's *Sri Brahmasamhita* and Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura's *Life and Precepts of Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu*. But Srila Prabhupada never authorised us to go outside of what he gave us himself, nor did he nominate others to succeed him in providing us such literature. Rather, only in some very rare and specific cases did he authorise us to go outside his books:

"All reading of outside books, except in certain authorized cases such as for example to read some philosopher like Plato to make an essay comparing his philosophy with Krishna's philosophy - but otherwise all such outside reading should be stopped immediately."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 20/1/1972)

Through Srila Prabhupada

Therefore we are studying the works of the previous *acaryas* through Srila Prabhupada's books:

Paramahansa: "But there's nothing wrong with the idea of studying the previous *acaryas'* books."

Prabhupada: "No. Who said? That is wrong. We are following previous *acaryas*. I never said that."

Paramahansa: "All of your

commentaries are coming from the previous *acaryas*."

Prabhupada: "Yes."

Jayadharma: "But that wouldn't mean that we should keep all the previous *acaryas'* books and only read them."

Prabhupada: "That is already there. You first of all assimilate what you have got. You simply pile up books and do not read—what is the use?"

Jayadharma: "First of all we must read all your books."

Prabhupada: "Yes."

Paramahansa: "Practically speaking, Srila Prabhupada, you are giving us the essence of all the previous *acaryas'* books in your books."

Prabhupada: "Yes. Yes." (Morning Walk, 13/5/1975)

"Whatever is to be learned of the teachings of Srila Bhaktivinoda Thakura can be learned from our books. There is no need whatsoever for any outside instruction."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 25/12/1973)

"I have given you *TLC**, what need is there to read *Caitanya Caritamrta* translated by someone else. You are right to stop such reading."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 20/1/1972)

* *Teachings of Lord Caitanya*

Conclusion

Though Srila Prabhupada has told us that the teachings of the previous *acaryas* should be studied, he has also stated that the only authorised source for such study is what he himself gave us via his ISKCON. Therefore, as Srila Prabhupada's loyal disciples, we must be satisfied with what he has given us, and not disobey his instructions and access teachings outside of what he has given us, since, as the current *acarya*, he is the only authorised source for us to access spiritual knowledge.

Prabhupada-Only Paradigm- 3: Authorisation

A fundamental difference which arises due to the "Prabhupada-Only Paradigm" ("POP") advocated by Srila Prabhupada and the IRM, relates to the issue of authorisation, in particular the authorisation of successor *diksa* gurus.

Srila Prabhupada must order

In regards to who can take up the position of *diksa* guru, the IRM's position follows Srila Prabhupada's standard directions regarding the need for a direct order from himself, before guruship is taken up:

"One should take initiation from a bona fide spiritual master coming in the disciplic succession, who is authorised by his predecessor spiritual master. This is called *diksa-vidhana*." (*Srimad-Bhagavatam* 4.8.54, purport, emphasis added)

"A Guru can be Guru when he is ordered by his Guru. That's all. Otherwise nobody can become Guru."

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 28/10/1975)

GBC must order

In contrast, the system for becoming guru in ISKCON depends not on authorisation from Srila Prabhupada, but from the GBC. It is possible to become a guru if, and only if, the GBC gives authorisation via receiving the requisite votes:

"...any GBC can present a *diksa* guru candidate before the GBC body. [...] and upon majority approval of the body, he may take up the responsibilities of an initiating guru in ISKCON." (GBC Resolution No. 3, 30/3/1986)

ISKCON gurus fully admit that they became gurus not due to any order from Srila Prabhupada, but due to other reasons accompanied by obtaining authorisation from the GBC. For example, HH Sivarama Swami admits he became a guru due to the prompting of a would-be girl disciple:

"At this time I also was asked to take up the role of initiating spiritual master. I didn't consider that this would be very conducive to my personal spiritual life and I was satisfied for others to do that service and that I would stay in the role of *sannyasi*, a preacher, *siksa* guru, GBC, and probably it was at Gaurangi's* repeated prompting that ultimately I began to think seriously of that service and took it up."

(HH Sivarama Swami, Podcast, 4/10/2006)

*at the time a young female devotee, and now a disciple.

Yet there is no direction from Srila Prabhupada authorising the GBC to authorise *diksa* guru successors - something which is not disputed by the GBC:

"That Srila Prabhupada personally detailed the procedure for increasing the number of initiating guru[s]" is something we can only wish. Or falsely tell the Society he did."

(HH Jayadvaita Swami, analysis of the 'May 28th, 1977 Conversation', 13/12/2003, accepted by GBC)

So, in line with the POP and Srila Prabhupada's instructions, the IRM's position rests on Srila Prabhupada's authority being required, while the GBC dispense with the need for this direct authorisation.

Hypocritical contradiction

As documented above, in practice the GBC insist that, rather than everyone, only those whom they authorise are eligible to act as *diksa* guru. However, in a desperate attempt to defeat the IRM's position that Srila Prabhupada is ISKCON's *diksa* guru, they officially argue a different position. In the GBC paper *Prabhupada's Order*, they present Srila Prabhupada's repeating Lord Caitanya's order for everyone and anyone to "become guru", given below, and claim that this is an order to be-

come *diksa* guru:

"Because as spiritual master what you have to do? *Yare dekha, tare kaha 'krsna'-upadesa*. Whomever you meet you simply speak to him the instruction which Krsna gives."

(Srila Prabhupada, *Vyasa-Puja* Address, London, 22/8/1973)

This order was actually given by Lord Caitanya to the *brahmana* Kurma, and also to anyone** else He met on His travels. By claiming that this is an order for *diksa* guru, the GBC are arguing that anyone who simply has the ability to read and repeat what Krishna has said, can become a *diksa* guru successor - an ability which requires no other qualification, and which even a child can exhibit:

"Therefore Caitanya Mahaprabhu ... *Yare dekha tare kaha 'krsna'-upadesa*: 'You become guru. No qualification required. Simply you repeat what Krsna has said.' [...] So who cannot do it? Anyone can do it, even a child. (laughs) Our Syamasundara's daughter. She was preaching, 'Do you know Krsna?'"

(Srila Prabhupada Conversation, 25/1/1977)

And the GBC do believe that virtually everyone in ISKCON satisfies the requirement of "no qualification required, simply you repeat what Krishna has said", since everyone in ISKCON is allowed to preach. Similarly, it is also argued that due to "tradition", after the guru's departure, every disciple is automatically able to initiate due to the "law of disciplic succession". But, as documented in the last section, in practice they do not actually believe or follow this, since, rather than there being at least 10,000 *diksa* gurus as soon as Srila Prabhupada departed (all of Srila Prabhupada's disciples, including *gurukula* children), today, we have only the select few whom they have authorised - which is only around 70, with no women or children! Rather, they



Srila Prabhupada:
No order given for
successor-gurus

have had to resort to inventing this argument only for use against the IRM, since they have no arguments by which to defeat us.

***Sri Caitanya-caritamrta*, *Madhya-lila* 7:128-132

Conclusion

Again we can see how differences in conclusion are due to a fundamental difference in regards to what constitutes authority. By adhering to the POP, the IRM's position remains in line with that of Srila Prabhupada, and therefore no *diksa* gurus other than himself can exist in ISKCON. Realising this, the GBC have had to abandon the POP, and invent their own standard for authority, which is themselves!

Additionally, we can note that, having defeated the GBC -

a) via Srila Prabhupada's words - *The Final Order*, *BTP* Special Summary Issue and various other papers and publications

b) via their own words - *BTP* Special Issue 2 and the *100 Contradictions* book

- we can add yet another category of defeat:

c) via their own actions - since they do not actually believe or apply the argument that everyone is ordered to "become guru". Rather they believe only the select handful of men, whom they favour and vote in, can "become guru".

So there are at least 3 different levels of defeat!

Prabhupada-Only Paradigm- 4: Innovation

Applying the POP, we now come to a natural conclusion regarding exactly how Srila Prabhupada's teachings must guide our every action.

Order-based model

It is stated that:

"The order of the spiritual master is the active principle in spiritual life."

(Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, *Adi-līla* 12:10)

This means whatever action we can take, must first be expressly ordered by Srila Prabhupada; hence the statement that the order of the spiritual master is the "active" principle in spiritual life. Again, though this is straightforward and clear, much of ISKCON's mission today is based on not understanding this simple principle. Rather, ISKCON's mission is driven by what may be called the "Innovation-based model", as explained below.

Innovation-based model

In BTP 30, the article "ISKCON's New Mission" detailed how ISKCON today is engaging in activities not sanctioned by Srila Prabhupada. Much of this deviation is driven in part by the false understanding that any activity is fine as long as we are claiming to fulfil some overall, lofty, general goal such as "preaching" or "spreading Krishna consciousness" or "getting people to respect us" etc. It is underpinned with the rationale of "one can do anything for Krishna", as long as one is "bringing people to Krishna". But how we should preach, or how we should run a temple, or how we should induce people to become devotees - everything - Srila Prabhupada has already told us how to do and we do not need to do anything else:

"From now on unless I order you do something change or in addition, go on with the usual standard way. [...] I have given you everything already, there is

no need for you to add anything or change anything. [...] So don't ask any more new questions, whatever is going on, follow it just to the exact standard as I have given you, that's all."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 4/1/1973)

The hoped-for ends do not justify the means. The only justification is the order, not the perceived result. Srila Prabhupada condemned the tendency to "innovate", stating that, even though devotees may be made, sticking to his orders is all that matters:

"So far the Road Show and this Yoga Village are concerned, these things should be stopped. Simply perform our kirtana. [...] Such inventing spirit will ruin our this movement. People may come to see, some will become devotees, but such devotees will not stay because they are attracted by some show and not by the real thing or spiritual life according to the standard of Lord Caitanya. Our standard is to have kirtana, start temples. [...] Gradually the Krishna Consciousness idea will evaporate: another change, another change, every day another change. Stop all this."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 5/11/1972)

We are not the acarya!

Sometimes quotes such as the following are used to justify the "innovation" model:

"An acarya who comes for the service of the Lord cannot be expected to conform to a stereotype, for he must find the ways and means by which Kṛṣṇa consciousness may be spread."

(Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, *Adi-līla*, 7.31-32, purport)

But this is what an acarya does, not us. Rather, our "ways and means" are already given to us by the acarya! Thus, we are supposed to follow the acarya and what he has ordered - not innovate in the way an acarya may

do so. And those who do innovate, instead of only following exactly what Srila Prabhupada has ordered, simply betray their own "acarya-consciousness".

Content stays identical

Another argument used to falsely promote the "innovation" model is via using quotes such as below:

"We should tax our brains as to what is the best way to present Kṛṣṇa consciousness to a particular people at a particular time and place."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter 13/11/1970)

It is argued that quotes such as this empower us to do what we like. But the quote states we must still be presenting "Krishna consciousness". And exactly what Krishna consciousness is, Srila Prabhupada has clearly defined. So the *content* of what we present cannot change one iota from that given to us by Srila Prabhupada. We have to still clearly refer to Krishna being the Supreme Personality of Godhead, and so on. We may simply use different ways to present exactly the same content in toto, without any addition or subtraction.

Therefore, every activity performed by ISKCON must be authorised via a corresponding order for that activity. Additionally, Srila Prabhupada may also give prohibitions to reinforce that certain activities should not be done. But simply the absence of a specific prohibition does not render an activity bona fide. Only a specific order authorising the activity does. Otherwise the verse quoted at the outset regarding the "active principle" of spiritual life, would have to change to:

"The ABSENCE of the order of the spiritual master (in this case, a specific prohibition) is the active principle in spiritual life."

That would turn the actual active principle of spiritual life, the



Srila Prabhupada:
We cannot act without
his direct order

order of the spiritual master, on its head, which would be ludicrous!

Conclusion

The need to return to Srila Prabhupada's "order-based model" becomes even more relevant due to the fact that ISKCON has today practically manufactured a new "mission" for itself. Indeed, the previous article, regarding the authorisation of successor *diksa* gurus, was simply one example showing the need to follow the "order-based model". Additionally, ISKCON has branched out into the realms of mechanical yoga, philanthropy, mundane and secular education, commercialisation, Hinduisation, and the like; all justified on the basis of "preaching" or "PR" and so on, stating that it is not expressly forbidden. Actually, many of the activities *are* expressly prohibited, but this still has not stopped anyone!

Summary of POP

In the preceding 4 pages, we presented a manifesto - the POP model - by which much of the deviation currently going on in Srila Prabhupada's name can be relieved. In a nutshell, it can all be summarised by the following statement: **Every single activity in ISKCON should be based on a specific, directly recorded order from Srila Prabhupada authorising it. All other activities should be stopped.** In this way, only bona fide activities can be accepted, and hence we can "clean house" and root out all deviations.

BTP Interactive

ISKCON Temple President writes

“My honest view is that BTP only points to discrepancies and irregularities taking place in the current GBC system. I am not saying that the current GBC system is right or wrong, or that the views expressed in BTP are right or wrong. I take an impartial view of both. Both the GBC and IRM should be focused on ideas, projects, programmes etc for propagating Krishna Consciousness worldwide. I am not really seeing any progress in this regard. Hence our ISKCON society is pretty much stagnant.”

- Krsna Kripa Das, Temple President, ISKCON South Centre, Trinidad

Editor replies:

Unless one first determines how Krishna consciousness is to be correctly propagated, one will not be able to propagate it. Before anyone can propagate Krishna consciousness, one must know: How does one reach Krishna? If it is through the bona fide spiritual master, then who is that bona fide spiritual master? And how does one serve the bona fide spiritual master, so that one can achieve the correct consciousness of Krishna? The IRM publications present how Krishna consciousness is propagated correctly according to Srila Prabhupada's orders, and the IRM is the only organisation which is focused on answering these questions and propagating the answers all over the world, in all languages. The very act of propagating real Krishna consciousness to those who are trying to be devotees, but due to ignorance hold

contrary views to the orders of Srila Prabhupada, is itself the practising and spreading of Krishna consciousness. You have admitted that ISKCON is stagnant and that BTP documents ISKCON not propagating Krishna consciousness in line with Srila Prabhupada's directives. Therefore, while appearing to object to BTP, you are in fact giving an endorsement to BTP.

ISKCON Communications European Director writes

“Hare Krishna,

I received today the latest copy of your magazine. With it came a little booklet about Bhakti Charu Swami. (100 Contradictions: The life and teachings of His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami - Ed.). I thought 'let's have a look what the magazine and booklet say this time.' No different than always of course, the revolutionary stuff against the ISKCON Guru and GBC.

For how long are you guys fighting now? Maybe it gets time to do some serious reflection if your strategy is working? How many Ratha Yatras have you organized by now? How many temples opened? I have not read in it in your magazine. [...]

I hope you do also post critical letters like this one and not only the ones which you like.”

- Mahaprabhu Das, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Editor replies:

Hare Krishna! The important question to which you need to first decide on an answer, is whether what we are saying is true or false. Because if it is false, then acquiring a new strategy or opening tem-

ples is irrelevant, since we would be promoting a falsehood, and you should thus be pleased if we are not opening temples or if our strategy is not working.

And if it is true, then you need to give some serious reflection as to why you are dedicating your life to serving an organisation which is deviating from Srila Prabhupada's orders.

And if what we are saying is true, then what we say is the most positive information out there, since we are the only ones speaking the truth about Srila Prabhupada's position on a large scale.

Of course, if you believe that what we are saying is false, then you would also be forced to agree that Bhakti Charu Swami is also a deviant, since in the 100 Contradictions book you received, we document him agreeing with us!

This year, in your role as the Director, you are organising the 20th annual ISKCON Communications Conference in Europe, looking at “intrafaith” issues. You state in your news release that your aim is to give the media, government, scholars, religious leaders and Hindu groups “a clearer understanding of ISKCON” in an effort to “deal with ISKCON sometimes being labeled a cult”. Yet, as we have documented in 100 Contradictions, ISKCON's own leaders themselves do not have a “clear understanding” of their own philosophy - but rather contradict themselves at least 100 times; and on top of this are worshipped as gurus for doing so! Is it any wonder, therefore, that ISKCON is sometimes labeled a cult?

And it's ironic that though you are keen to have your letter published in BTP, at the same time your cult-like ISKCON society is trying to stop us distributing BTP! (see IRM website for videos of ISKCON's thug tactics used against us). So much for “intrafaith” and “communications”!

Field report USA: Meat on the menu

“In BTP issue 11 a report had been given of ISKCON premises being hired out for gambling activities in the form of Bingo, which Srila Prabhupada did not approve of.

We have personal experience of this phenomenon, which we would like to report. These activities are occurring at ISKCON Brooklyn, and the premises being rented out were an integral part of the temple for devotees to take prasadam and also to store Srila Prabhupada's books, when the temple first opened. I even helped on the construction in there, helping fix the wood floor and painting the space when I was Brahmachari at the temple. Now these premises are available for hire for anyone to do whatever they want, as long as money is paid.

We went along on March 27th, 2011, to document the activities going on, since some devotees did not believe that such activities could be going on in an ISKCON-run enterprise. After arriving, we noticed a group of gamblers standing outside, who, on being asked, told us that inside they had “pork ribs, hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken.” Inside, everyone was engaging in gambling, intoxication and meat-eating. Only illicit sex was not visible to the eye! One of the people in charge confirmed that the space was rented to them by the “temple next door”. Attached is a picture of the meat being cooked in the kitchen (see picture opposite - Ed.)

Never did anyone think that after Srila Prabhupada left the planet, parts of ISKCON temples would be converted to be rented out for meat-eating, gambling and intoxication!”

- IRM New York

Field report UK: ISKCON Temple President confronts IRM

“At the Soho Street temple in London, whilst some of our devotees were distributing BTPs, as they do every Sunday outside the Sunday feast program, one Indian gentle-



BTP Interactive (continued)

man, who is a regular visitor there, came out to speak to our distributors and told them that though he had not received the book 100 Contradictions: The life and teachings of His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami, a friend who had received it made it a point to lend it to him, and he was so impressed on reading it that he scanned the whole book and e-mailed it to every Bhakti Charu Swami disciple he knew! Also, the Temple President of Soho Street came out to confront our distributors and the following exchange took place:

Temple President: "Why don't you do this somewhere else?"

IRM: "Because it is important only for ISKCON devotees."

Temple President: "But this is all negative"

IRM: "No. This is positive preaching that Prabhupada is our guru and he will take us home."

Temple President: "Why don't you start your own temple?"

IRM: "This is our temple, the one Srila Prabhupada gave us to run as he instructed."

Temple President: "Well, good luck."

And with that he left us to carry on blissfully distributing BTPs. It is interesting to note that the Temple President had no reply to the answer given to each of his accusations, and thus each time he was forced to change the subject and make up another unrelated accusation."

-IRM London

ISKCON Malaysia

"Just received No: 28, thank you. What you are doing will crush the pride of some artificially puffed up disciples of their so-called greatest guru in ISKCON. This phenomenon can be seen at least in ISKCON Malaysia, referring to Jayapataka Swami's disciples."

-J. Srinivas, Klang, Malaysia

(Editor's note: Story from a former disciple of Jayapataka Swami in ISKCON Malaysia follows opposite).

Serving a bogus guru: A Malaysian story

It was in 1997 that I first came across the teachings of Srila Prabhupada. At this time I was a devotee of Mother Durga and I was so crazy about her, that day and night I would write her name and meditate on her, and I always kept asking her to show me the right way to go back to Godhead. Then one day my uncle's son gave me *The Science of Self-Realization* by Srila Prabhupada. When I read the book I instantly felt that I was missing something, and I wished to know more about Srila Prabhupada, who was giving me all this knowledge. So naturally I went to the local ISKCON temple, which at the time was in Port Klang. When we first went to the temple, Divija Prabhu welcomed us and guided us. I took very strongly to being involved in ISKCON, and very quickly began preaching about the movement, doing house programs and collecting money for the temple. I then became a youth leader representing Klang *Namahatta*, and then from Port Klang we shifted to Klang, where I became the Temple Treasurer for ISKCON Klang. During this time I also became initiated by Jayapataka Swami ("JPS") in 2001. In 2002 I became Vice President of ISKCON Klang. In this way I quickly became very serious about and dedicated to following a path which I thought was the correct one.

Later on, I found out that there were other devotees in Malaysia who were "ritviks", and one of them gave me a BTP, but when I first read it I never believed what I read, since I accepted Jayapataka Swami as my guru, and naturally thought that all ISKCON gurus are following the disciplic succession. But the more I became involved in ISKCON, the more I observed so many things which did



By Jeevaraj Ramiah
Klang, Malaysia

not seem correct. I would notice that the ISKCON gurus would routinely give classes which did not at all follow Srila Prabhupada's purports. There was also a lot of groupism which was encouraged. Devotees and supporters were naturally separated between those who had money and those who did not. I had heard that in foreign countries there is groupism between western and Indian devotees. Here in Malaysia since virtually all the members are from an Indian background, one would think such groupism could not occur, but here we also have groupism between those who are Tamil-speaking and those who are Telegu-speaking!

I began to object to this groupism and then this caused trouble for me at the temple. Ever since I came to Krishna consciousness, I had never once thought that I am an Indian. Also, one time while JPS was giving class, a devotee gave him his medication pills, and accidentally gave him the wrong pills. JPS immediately became very angry and accused the devotee that "are you trying to kill me?". This reaction from JPS disturbed me, since it did not seem appropriate behaviour from someone supposed to be a transcendental bona fide guru. Others who had also heard this realised that this was the case, since they claimed that actually JPS never said this!

Though everything in ISKCON



Worshipping the feet of the bogus guru Jayapataka Swami

starts off so nicely, appearing to be such a relief from the material world, as one goes deeper and deeper, we simply find a lot of misunderstanding, because ISKCON today is all about money and politics, rather than surrendering to Srila Prabhupada.

All these experiences and others induced me to once again revisit the BTP magazine I had gotten years earlier. Though I had refused to believe what I had read there, Krishna had arranged that for some reason I did not throw the magazine away. I looked at it again and decided to investigate more deeply, with an open mind. I saw the reply card and decided to subscribe and also order *The Final Order*. So then I began to seriously study the literature, rather than just dismissing the contents out of prejudice and blind following. Once I did this everything became crystal clear, since all the answers in the literature were coming directly from Srila Prabhupada.

My family and I are so grateful to the IRM for revealing the truth to the world, and helping devotees like us, who did not know where to turn. We wanted to follow Srila Prabhupada, and his teachings, but at the same time saw that ISKCON was not following them, and therefore really had no idea what to do. The IRM is now giving me all the help

BTP Interactive (continued)

and guidance that my family and I need to practice spiritual life correctly. I know so many devotees who are hopelessly lost, following false gurus, some who even know that their guru is a hoaxer! But the IRM has saved me from all this now and I have left it all behind. I have also given up a false guru and accepted only Srila Prabhupada. Thanks to the IRM I have even been able to now read Srila Prabhupada's books in their original form, the way Srila Prabhupada left them. Now I wish to help the IRM preach more about the message of BTP to other JPS disciples, so they will let go of him and accept the true guru Srila Prabhupada. This may be difficult since it is said we can wake up a sleeping person, but not one who is pretending to be sleeping, but I will still give it a try!

As a final note, I find it ironic that, as I related at the start of my story, though I came to ISKCON from being a worshipper of Mother Durga, I have read in previous BTP issues that in ISKCON there is now a reverse trend to worship Mother Durga! [Editor's note: Please see our story in BTP 17, "Demigod worship spreads to ISKCON Hungary", for a report on the worship of Goddess Durga].

I sincerely wish that one day the real, one ISKCON will emerge, strictly following the one, true, great guru Srila Prabhupada. I wish to now dedicate my life to Srila Prabhupada, making a new beginning, from scratch, this time following his order strictly without any deviation, and in this way my spiritual life is actually only now beginning. Hence, though I was given the name Jivanatha Das by Jayapataka Swami, I wish to once again be known as Bhakta Jeevaraj, acknowledging that my spiritual life starts now in earnest, with the right understanding, and right surrender to Srila Prabhupada.

"Little Krishna" video

"It was a revelation that you pointed out what Bangalore is doing by producing those Krsna movies which I didn't like at all myself and Srila Prabhupada says in Srimad-Bhagavatam 1.1.1 purport: 'Unscrupulous persons go immediately to the Tenth Canto'!"

- Sambhu Das, Emmaboda, Sweden

Fallen guru - what to do?

"I was initiated by Lokanatha Swami. What is going to happen with my spiritual life after Lokanatha Swami's falldown? Hare Krishna. Jaya Srila Prabhupada."

- Bhakta Todd Garvey, California, USA

Editor replies:

The official ISKCON GBC report of Lokanatha Swami's falldown stated:

"In 1990 while staying at the house of a family for a few days Lokanath Swami (Swami x) touched a young pre-adolescent girl in an inappropriate way by putting his hand on her lap. [...] In 1993 when the GBC chairman became aware of the incident and appointed a committee to deal with the issue, Swami x was also told to stop all initiations. [...] The GBC committee concluded that this deviation from the acceptable conduct had been accidental. So in 1996 after Gour Purnima, he was allowed to begin accepting disciples again."

As with all the GBC voted-in gurus, Lokanatha Swami was never authorised by Srila Prabhupada to be a guru. As long as you now only follow Srila Prabhupada as your guru, your spiritual life will be safe: *"one has to accept the shelter of a bona fide spiritual master and agree to be directed by him."* (Caitanya-caritamṛta, Madhya 19.167, purport).

Srila Prabhupada - what to do?

"Hare Kṛṣṇa - All glories to our beloved spiritual father, Srila Prabhupada. It still bothers me whenever the first

question is - "Who is your guru?" - I wish that we had a code to recognize devotees who accept Srila Prabhupada!"

- Guruvastaka Devi Dasi, Washington DC, USA

Editor replies:

Yes, it is indeed a farcical situation that the question *"Who is your guru?"* even needs to be asked, rather like asking a Christian *"Who is your saviour?"* and expecting the name of some parish priest in reply, rather than Lord Jesus Christ! But just as the Christians had their "code" for identifying each other (the fish symbol) in times of persecution, so similarly do we have a means of identification when asked *"Who is your guru?"* We simply pass out a copy of BTP and devotees know immediately who our saviour is!

To meet or not to meet?

Regarding the following, from Back To Prabhupada, Issue 25:

"[...] If the guru is not physically present, how would pariksa, the mandatory time of mutual examination between guru and disciple, be possible? Desai soundly defeats this argument by pointing out that Prabhupada's constant travel very seldom gave him the chance for personally examining his students. Rather, this task fell to senior students, who would recommend those they felt to be serious candidates to Prabhupada for initiation. If pariksa could be done in that way back then, why not now also?"

Why not now? Because back then even if the disciple and Prabhupada couldn't actually travel to each other, the potential for such travel still existed; it's not possible now."

- Thomas T. Klugh, New York City, USA

Editor replies:

The above quotation from BTP is an extract from a review published in the ISKCON Studies Journal of the IRM's debate with the GBC.

(The full debate is available online at the following website address: www.iskconirm.com/docs/pdf/krishnakirti.pdf).

The reviewer correctly argues that *pariksa* can be done in the same way today as it was done when Srila Prabhupada was on the planet, since *pariksa* did not require Srila Prabhupada to meet prospective disciples. In response, you have argued that previously the potential for such a meeting existed, but it does not exist today. But this has no relevance to whether or not valid *pariksa* today can be done in the same way that it was done previously, since no such meeting was required. One cannot argue for the necessity of the mere potentiality for an action, when the action itself is unnecessary.

Negative information

"There is too much negative information in BTP. It's good to tell the truth, but I think in this Kali-yuga there are a few people who are really honest. I like to read about Krishna and about my guru Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada. But I don't like to read so much negative things about other people, that is not good for my consciousness. Maybe you can help people more with information about what is the message of Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada and how we can please Krishna and much more."

- Radhika Devi Dasi, Utrecht, The Netherlands

Editor replies:

You have stated that it is good to tell the truth, as BTP does, but that this truth is "too negative" and that there is too much of it. There is no instruction from Srila Prabhupada that truth should not be spoken because it is "too negative". Rather, the truth should be spoken even when it is "too negative":

"According to social conventions, it is said that one can speak the

BTP Interactive (continued)

truth only when it is palatable to others. But that is not truthfulness. The truth should be spoken in a straight and forward way, so that others will understand actually what the facts are. [...] Although sometimes the truth is unpalatable, one should not refrain from speaking it."

(Bhagavad-gita As It Is, 10:4-5, purport)

You state that you like to read about Srila Prabhupada. This magazine is all about Srila Prabhupada and his real instructions! We can please Krishna by following Srila Prabhupada correctly. There are many unscrupulous persons who are claiming to represent Srila Prabhupada, but, in reality, they are actually deviating many innocent devotees away from Srila Prabhupada. By combating such misleaders, we are helping such devotees and also pleasing Krishna, by bringing them back to Prabhupada.

In the name of the father

"I know Prabhupada founded ISKCON. I saw that IRM is a different name. It is not ISKCON."

- Nimai Karmakar, Krishnanagar, India

Editor replies:

Yes, Srila Prabhupada founded ISKCON, but that ISKCON exists today in name only.

The ISKCON movement existing today is different from the ISKCON founded by Srila Prabhupada because it has deviated from his orders as to how ISKCON should be run in virtually every sphere (please see BTP 30: "ISKCON's new mission"). The chief of these deviations being the ISKCON GBC replacement of Srila Prabhupada as the guru of the movement with unauthorised substitutes via a guru hoax.

This has all been proven by the IRM via the documented words of Srila Prabhupada himself, in BTP and our other publications. The facts, therefore, are that:

- Srila Prabhupada founded ISKCON.
- That movement does not ex-

ist today.

- It needs to be re-established or revived.

Recognising these ground realities, former and current members and supporters of ISKCON have come together to work for re-establishing the ISKCON founded by our spiritual father Srila Prabhupada. Their designation as the "ISKCON Revival Movement" (IRM) is, therefore, merely an accurate description of their activities. Srila Prabhupada himself predicts such an activity:

"when the acarya disappears, rogues and nondevotees take advantage and immediately begin to introduce unauthorized principles in the name of so-called svamis, yogis, philanthropists, welfare workers and so on. [...] The perfect disciples of the acarya try to relieve the situation by sincerely following the instructions of the spiritual master."

(Srimad-Bhagavatam, 4.28.48, purport)

Enlightening

"Just read the last issue of BTP and also the debate with the Dr. from Puerto Rico (www.iskconirm.com/docs/webpages/hecs_debate.htm). You are amazing!! [...] Krishna is empowering you more and more. Nice site!! Sincerely,"

- Mahatma Das, Los Angeles, USA

"You guys are right! I have been doing research into this controversial issue of ritvik(ism) and I can clearly see the facts. Despite my initial doubts and early dismissals of ritvikism, I can very easily see that Srila Prabhupada is clear about this ritvik system and not of the current GBC system of initiations. It's really not brain surgery at all for anyone to understand. Just how the current system came into operation against Prabhupada's wishes is yet unknown to me, but I am still hopeful that the GBC can correct this and revert back to what Prabhupada desired - the ritvik system, which had already been

in place years before Prabhupada physically left us. I believe that the GBC are intelligent devotees desiring the best for the institution so I guess it's a matter of time (shortly, I pray) before we can reform.

Many thanks. Hare Krsna."

- Ashish Panday, Durban, South Africa

"I read issue no. 28 of Back To Prabhupada and I think a few things came to light that I never heard before. I want to know more about IRM. Thank you very much."

- Bhagirath R. Pandya, Gujarat, India

"Dear Krishnakant,

First of all, may I congratulate you on your aim of making the teachings of His Divine Grace A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada available without the deviations which the GBC are clearly trying to introduce. I find the Back To Prabhupada magazine very interesting and thought-provoking. Myself, I am not very advanced in Krishna Consciousness, though I have been vegetarian - more or less - for over 20 years. I have read some of Prabhupada's books and at the moment I am reading a copy of the Bhagavad-Gita, with commentary by Prabhupada. Once again, I commend you on your important work and I look forward to hearing from you. Hare Krishna! All the best."

- Jon Abraham, London, England

"It is a great relief to gain this insight regarding the mismanaged behaviour of His Grace's disciples."

- John Nijhove, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

"Ritvik concept is so transparent, I do not understand why the well-read devotees are indifferent. July 9th letter is so clear, evident and self explanatory, it is deplorable that they are not giving vent for this. This is clear betrayal!"

- Akrura Krishna Das, Hubli, Karnataka, India

"Haribol! Thank you for sending me Back To Prabhupada, issue 28, Summer 2010. I have received the "ISKCON hypocrisy special." I'm saddened to hear that ISKCON is now

referring to our Dear Lord Krishna as a myth (as mentioned in BTP about the film). It's also a disappointment to see what kind of articles are considered 'news' on ISKCON'S news website. The article I am referring to is titled, "The Guru Grooming Russell Brand for Marriage Ahead of His Indian Wedding." In my opinion, this does not do the movement any justice. I guess I just do not like to see KC associated with the mindless mainstream culture, here and in the West. Thank you very much. May Lord Krishna bless you for exposing the truth."

- Donna Bekiarian, North Carolina, USA

"I read your magazine Back To Prabhupada everytime it comes to my place. I have joined ISKCON for the last 5 years and was about to take initiation. But after observing your allegations against ISKCON, I wanted to take a wide view of entire matters going on in ISKCON. So please forward me The Final Order. Indeed, it is a very profound and detailed book about the facts in ISKCON. Very enlightening."

- Sangam Trishma, Flacq, Mauritius

BTP appreciation

"Now I get Back To Prabhupada. Wonderful. I think this is the open house. Hare Krishna."

- Minta Dookun, Vacoas, Mauritius

"Thank you very much for your valuable service!! I liked BTP very much. Your servant."

- Madhu Das, Florida, Argentina

"Thank you for making such a wonderful and vital publication. We all need to get back to Prabhupada only. Would really love any back issues...like the one about Satsvarupa and his strange art... mental issues... playing mundane pop songs to his disciples. Also my own guy...Vipramukhya...flying on a broomstick...wow, if we could have traveled that way when we toured together. All glories to your service!"

- Forest Temple III, Hawaii, USA

"May Krsna shower His blessings on all who worked to put



BTP Interactive (continued)

this magazine together. ALL GLORIES, ALL GLORIES, ALL GLORIES!"

- Aditeya Priya Das, Princes Town, Trinidad

"Hare Krishna. I want to thank all of you for your precious service."

- Minta Dookun, Vacoas, Mauritius

"It's a shame we even need such questionnaire to get back to the basic teachings of the greatest devotee of Sri Sri Radha-Krsna of this modern age. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. All glories to Sri Sri Radha Govinda."

- Chellam Kunjan, New York, USA

"Hare Krishna. It's unfortunate to see the self-made gurus offending Prabhupada's instructions. It has been high-time now to correct the mistake already committed and unleash Prabhupada's vision of running each temple independently and self efficiently with Prabhupada as acarya."

- Vijay Pohwani, Bangalore, India

"It's a wonderful and great service to Srila Prabhupada."

- Gaurav Kumar, Harayana, India

"Very interesting magazine, keep on writing."

- Vishaka Devi Dasi, Mahebourg, Mauritius

"Excellent knowledge."

- Jasu Ukani, London, England

"You are doing a magnanimous duty for saving the disciplic succession of this movement of Srila Prabhupada!"

- Maharani Grenham, Mississippi, USA

"Dear Krishnakant Prabhu, Keep up the good work. You are doing a fantastic job, I read all the letters sent by your readers. Thank you."

- Sham Aubeeluck, Brisse Verdier, Mauritius

"Back To Prabhupada upwards and onwards in 2011, to recover all of Srila Prabhupada's lost and confused disciples. Hare Krishna."

- Chaitanya S. Das, Alicante, Spain

"I think it is very important for the credibility of the movement and for the sake of His Divine Grace Swami Prabhupada that this truth is exposed."

- Laurent Lery, London, England

"It's nice you guys are around and that you are bringing new life to Prabhupada's legacy. Hare Krsna."

- Andreas Arndt, Bleckede, Germany (translated from German)

"I would like all the temples to do Deity Worship how Srila Prabhupada wants. First to Guru (Srila Prabhupada) then Lord Caitanya then Radha Krishna. We have to do what Srila Prabhupada wants, then everything will flourish. All Glories, all Glories to Srila Prabhupada whom Krishna sent to pull us off this planet to home, back to Godhead."

- Mrs Khara, Alachua, Florida, USA

"HARE KRSNA Prabhus, I am VERY interested in getting as many copies of your magazine as possible. If you send me even one copy, please inform me how I can PAY you—not only for the actual issue, but also for shipping and handling. I am interested in distributing copies to members of the ISKCON community here in Winnipeg. Please pray that I am not violently beaten up/down/around. Your servant in the service of Srila Prabhupada."

- Devaki-Nandana Das, Winnipeg, Canada

"I want to read about them Guru hoaxers and the rock and roll swami. All glories to your exposing these Guru hoaxers!"

- Jaya Jagannatha Das, Hawaii, USA

"Thank you for the last issue of your splendid magazine. Always good to hear from you. Keep up the good work."

- Stephen J. Harmsworth, London, England

"TFO received. Truly glorious BTP magazines. BTP and IRM are only making successful progress. Dieu et mon droit sans reproche."

- Svarupa Damodar Das, Cavan, Eire

"Thank you for reviving our Prabhupada's mission."

- Aditya Sharma, Rajasthan, India

IRM helps us

"Will you send your copies as soon as possible? We need help. As the situation is very, very confusing. I want to know the truth, we need The Final Order to read."

- Radha Govinda Das, Porto, Portugal

"Thanks for the BTPs. You're helping a lot of us to try to make some sense of what has happened to ISKCON."

- Gary Roberts, Illinois, USA

"I have seen BTP magazine. It's very fantastic, and this helps us to know about Srila Prabhupada and Lord Krishna. I hope this magazine will be a milestone. Thank you very much."

- Krishna Mohan Sharma, Madhya Pradesh, India

"Thank you so much for your such kind and magnanimous mood to helping and spreading the prophetic instructions of Srila Prabhupada all over the world. All glory to your devotional life, help and services. Hare Krishna! Jaya Jagannatha! Your humble servant."

- Jagateswar Das, Bhubaneswar, India

"I'm thankful something is being done to fix this problem as it has hurt untold numbers of people. Thank you. Hare Krishna."

- Rick Osborn, Michigan, USA

"I was inspired by your actions. Through your help I came to know so many things I didn't know. Please soon send me a copy of The Final Order."

- Harsh Gadhave, Gujarat, India

"Amazing work that you are doing will please Srila Prabhupada and make ISKCON regain its lost glory."

- Giridhari Ramamoorthy, Sengkang, Singapore

"Actually the action of IRM to re-establish the real Prabhupada ISKCON can set an example for each and every sincere initiated devotee to come closer to the invaluable teachings of His Divine Grace. That was my realisation, as I have the good fortune to come in contact with your action. Please keep on the spirit!"

- Dinabandu Das, Les Echelles, France

"God Bless, keep up the good work. I have been praying for a revival movement, here in New Zealand we were hoodwinked for many years. All Glories to His Divine Grace Srila Prabhupada."

- Prajadhara Das, Hawkes Bay, New Zealand

"I have just received Issue #29. AS USUAL IT IS GREAT! BACK TO PRABHUPADA IS THE GREATEST PREACHING TOOL IN THE WORLD!"

THANK YOU - IRM IS MY ONLY HOPE IN A DYSFUNCTIONAL WORLD!"

- Srimaya Dasa, Koh Samui, Thailand

"Let me first offer my deepest and profound obeisances. Your mission is one of the utmost gravity, for you have been given the task of keeping our Gurudev's position right on the glorious, lush Vyasasana where he is freely distributing his diksa, his transcendental knowledge, throughout the three worlds. Prabhupada knew that some of his "disciples" (?) would become the most dangerous of rascals, and so he put his Final Order in place just so none of these rogues would attempt to usurp his position (which can never truly be taken). Nonetheless, Prabhupada also knew the subtle nuances of this age of Kali, and so he made arrangements for the right personality to appear to embark on this righteous endeavor to end the activities of these thieves and put things back in the proper order - the way Prabhupada wanted it. You, Krishnakant, are that personality, and let me say that although this journey can at times have its dangers and missteps, in the end, you will be victorious and these bogus gurus will be at your feet begging for forgiveness."

Please know that I am just one of countless devotees who have been impacted by your selfless endeavor. I will never be able to thank you enough for opening my eyes and exposing me to the truth. Thank you so much Krishnakant prabhu for all that you have done (and all that is yet to be done).

All glories to you and your incomparable service to our spiritual master, A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Srila Prabhupada! All glories to Sri Sri Guru and Gauranga Ki Jaya!"

- Alexandra Diaz, New York, USA

Readers are cordially invited to submit their stories, reports, realisations and questions.

Email: irm@iskconirm.com

Yoga for fat ladies, not devotees

In the last issue of *BTP*, in the article "ISKCON's New Mission", we illustrated the proliferation of gymnastic (*hatha*) yoga displays throughout ISKCON, with a photograph of gymnastic contortions being performed onstage at the Budapest Rathayatra festival - a festival that is supposed to be dedicated to Lord Jagannatha. ISKCON has admitted that such displays are now commonplace in ISKCON: "Perhaps the most interesting new trend for ISKCON devotees to note, however, is the recent proliferation of devotee yoga teachers. ISKCON devotees, of course, follow an ancient spiritual path also brought to the West in the 1960s by Srila Prabhupada, who taught *Bhakti*—the yoga of devotion—and did not place any emphasis on physical yoga exercises."

(ISKCON News, 15.1.2011)

Below we see more examples of this proliferation of standalone *hatha*-yoga courses being conducted in ISKCON temples, as well as statements from Srila Prabhupada on the same. It is clear from these statements that he indeed "did not place any emphasis on physical yoga exercises" - but rather condemned them. And yet ISKCON is happy to do the complete opposite and promote such yoga exercises as part of its 'spiritual program' (for a fee, of course) throughout the world!

ISKCON India

"Mayapur Yoga Retreats, held at Sri Mayapur Dhama, allow you to discover the yoga tradition and to explore it at deeper levels, be it about *asanas*, *pranayama*, meditation, philosophy, daily lifestyle for health [...] Yoga postures (daily) - Holistic improvement of your overall health from toe to head, including mind."

('Yoga Retreats in Spiritual India', ISKCON World Headquarters, Mayapur, 2010-11)

ISKCON USA

"ISKCON will be one of the many organizations participating in Yogathon, a one-day campaign that will see community and worship centers across the U.S. offering free one or two-hour introductory yoga classes [...] The event, which is intended to promote healthy and natural living, will be part of President Obama's United We Serve initiative [...] ISKCON Centers participating in the Yogathon include The Bhakti Center in New York City; New Talavan, Mississippi; New Orleans; Potomac, Maryland; and Prabhupada Village, North Carolina. Devotees running yoga studios in Los Angeles and Lawrence, Kansas will also participate. The event is a good fit for North American ISKCON temples, since many already offer regular yoga classes."

(ISKCON News, 20/8/2010)

ISKCON Europe

"Current programs: Sunday Program, *harinama* every Saturday evening, morning program, book distribution, *hatha* yoga classes 2-3 times a week, devotional movies and slide shows."

(ISKCON Athens, Greece)

ISKCON UK

"Get ready to roll down your yoga mats because it's never too late to take up yoga whether you're 50 or 75! Few people retain their flexibility and vitality in later years. Yoga helps by removing tension from the mind and body, improving the quality of muscle tone, maintaining full range of movement and correcting poor posture. By harnessing the vital energy of the breath, the mind and body can be recharged. [...] Get the most out of your golden years now that you finally have time to do something for yourself and your own physical and mental development. Many complaints associated with aging such as sleeplessness, lack of drive and initiative, insufficient circulatory and digestive trouble can be corrected. Remember, you are only as old as you feel! [...] Course Fee: £40 (6 sessions)"

(ISKCON UK headquarters, Bhaktivedanta Manor)

Simply bluffed

Devotee: "Can *hatha*-yoga hinder or help Krishna consciousness, or is it...?"

Prabhupada: "Hinder. Yes. Because it is useless, simply wasting time. You cannot perform *hatha*-yoga in this age. You do not follow the rules and regulations. You are simply bluffed. Do you know what is the rules and regulations of *hatha*-yoga factually?"

Devotee: "Not actually."

Prabhupada: "Yes. You have to select a secluded place. *Hatha*-yoga is not practiced in assembly of so many men. Just you go to a *hatha*-yoga class. There are hundreds of members practicing, and he is collecting money, five dollars per seat. And you are thinking, "I am practicing." That is useless waste of time and money. *Hatha*-yoga is not practiced in that way."

(Room Conversation, 10/5/1969)

Bodily attachment

"The *hatha*-yoga system is basically meant for those who are overly attached to the body; otherwise, the preferred yoga is *sankhya*-yoga or *bhakti*-yoga."

(Teachings of Lord Kapila, Chapter 14, Text 31, purport)

Meant for rascals

"Otherwise, if they keep themselves in ignorance, *ajnah*, *dehy ajnah*, then *ajita-sad-varga*: he will never be able to control the senses. The yoga system, *hatha*-yoga system, is meant for this class of rascals, *ajita*."

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 5/8/1975)

Appeals to fat ladies

"The supreme ancient system of yoga pertains to the soul. Presently, in America especially, *hatha*-yoga is very popular. It appeals to fat ladies who go to the classes to reduce and keep their digestive systems regular. Many people are interested in this kind of gymnastic yoga, but real yoga is *adhyatmika*. *Adhyatmika* means to awaken the soul to his proper position. The soul is *purusa*, spirit, and his business is to reconnect his lost relationship with Krsna."

(Teachings of Lord Kapila, Chapter 8, Text 14, purport)

Not for devotees

"A person who is in Krishna consciousness, he does not require to perform *dhyana*-yoga or *hatha*-yoga or *karma*-yoga or *jnana*-yoga."

(Srila Prabhupada Lecture, 10/1/1967)

ISKCON's guru wars continue

In *BTP* and our various books and papers we have documented:

- ISKCON leaders agreeing with the IRM.
- ISKCON leaders contradicting themselves.
- ISKCON gurus contradicting their authority, the GBC.
- ISKCON gurus contradicting each other.

As explained in this issue's Editorial, such misunderstanding and contradiction will naturally result when self-motivated individuals fabricate hoaxes and try to justify disobeying Srila Prabhupada. Below we see more recent examples of such contradictory behaviour as listed above, from ISKCON's leadership.

Guru 1: ISKCON growing

Kripamoya Das ("KMD"), GBC voted-in ISKCON guru, claims that those who say ISKCON is not expanding, and only attracting Indians, are basically "embittered former members".



"From time to time I hear accusations that ISKCON is not growing; or worse still, that it may be shrinking; and that proof of this is that some temples are closing, empty during the week, or only attracting Indian families. Personally I don't believe that this is the case. I consider these accusations to be largely the propaganda strategies of embittered former members."

(KMD, 'Is ISKCON Shrinking or Growing?' *ISKCON News*, 4/3/2011)

Guru 2: ISKCON shrinking

Yet we find that one of these voices of supposedly "embittered former members" comes from his GBC voted-in guru colleague, His Holiness Bhakti Charu Swami ("BCS"):



"Compared to during Srila Prabhupada's time, ISKCON is stagnant. When you go to the West, you see Indians manning the temples. This means that Westerners are not joining." ('Insights from Bhakti Charu Swami', 24/3/2007)

"Many of our temples in the West are practically empty and just to maintain the temple activities devotees have to be imported from India and other less opulent countries."

(BCS, Q&A, 25/4/2008)

"Our temples are empty today, it is a bad sign. Something is lacking. [...] Therefore no one is coming. [...] The preaching spirit has been lost."

(BCS Lecture, 1/1/2009)

"Just consider how the *Sankirtana Yajna* was during Prabhupada's time and how it is today. I mean, there is a very, very distinct decline. I mean, we have to take up this mission seriously. Just consider, during Prabhupada's time if we had this temple, how many devotees would've been here? Right? It would've been packed! So, the reality is the *Sankirtana* Movement is not spreading, it's in decline."

(BCS Lecture, 23/4/2009)

Guru 3: Pure devotees never fall

ISKCON guru, His Grace Sankarshan Das ("SAD") states that those who are pure devotees, and thus fixed in Krishna consciousness, will never fall down:



"Pure Devotees Don't Fall Down: One who is solidly fixed in Krishna consciousness never falls down because he is constantly relishing within his heart a sweetness which surpasses by millions, billions, and even trillions of times the happiness derived from material sense gratification."

(SAD, 'The Ultimate Self-Realization Course', 11/3/2011)

Guru 4: Pure devotees can fall

SAD's explanation, however, contradicts the GBC'S acceptance of ISKCON's fallen gurus as initially being bona fide, fixed-up members of the *parampara* (disciplic succession), before they simply fell down and out of the *parampara*. This bizarre philosophy is exemplified by the explanation below from GBC voted-in guru HH Jayadvaita Swami ("JAS"), in a 1993 conversation in South London, England, with the now newly created, as-good-as-God guru Kripamoya Das ("KMD"):



KMD: "It doesn't really seem to be a very positive foundation for a spiritual organisation to, you know, in 1993 own up to the fact that from 1978 right through to 1988, you had gurus who fell away. We thought that they were in the *parampara* and we told people..."

JAS: "They were in the *parampara*, and then they left the *parampara*."

KMD: "Well then, were they ever in the *parampara* at all?"

JAS: "Yes. [...]"

KMD: "But doesn't that mean you're dealing with a person who's a spiritual master, he's beyond the modes of material nature?"

JAS: "As long as he's doing his business, he's beyond the modes of material nature, when he stops doing his business and does some other business the modes of nature can catch him. [...] We should come to the philosophy, if we have to unravel history, it's a big chore [...] You could write a whole history, it'll be real juicy. But the question is, what's our philosophical understanding?"

KMD: "Well, I thought I was asking you a philosophical question. Can a guru be a guru one year, and then not be a guru the next year? Is that present in Vaisnava philosophy?"

JAS: "Yes."

Conclusion: Though Srila Prabhupada writes in his books that the bona fide spiritual master is self-realised, "100% Krishna conscious" and "as-good-as-God", ISKCON's gurus actually have no idea if they are coming or going! Some have argued that even though they may not be on the highest levels of Krishna consciousness, our ISKCON leaders are still more spiritually advanced than everyone else, and we can at the very least accept them as advanced *siksa* (instructing) gurus. But, as continually documented, they appear to be "advanced" primarily in being unable to agree with either Srila Prabhupada, themselves or each other, which does not particularly qualify them for any spiritual position.

The guru con in action: A case study

We explained in the BTP 29 article "How the guru hoax works", how the guru hoax is based on the simple technique of label-switching, which even a child could see through. Below we present a practical example of this technique at work, carried out by GBC-elected guru hoaxer, **HG Sankarshan Das ("SAD")**. All quotations in the tinted panels are taken from answers he gives as part of his "Ultimate Self Realization Course". This is a web-based course run by SAD to attract unsuspecting spiritual seekers on the internet, who are then funnelled via his label-switching scam to become his initiated disciples and worship him "as good as God" (see "Rolls-Royce guru" article in BTP 20).

Initiation con

QUESTION: "Since I joined the self realization course, does it mean that I have been initiated? If not, what is the procedure for receiving initiation? Kindly advise."

SAD: "As soon as you accept the spiritual master's orders as your very life and soul, you are practically speaking already initiated. And then when you prove to the spiritual master that you are seriously committed to following his instructions for your entire life, he performs the initiation ceremony handing you your chanting beads and giving you your spiritual name. This is called formal initiation. The basic instructions of the spiritual master are that you must chant at least 16 rounds daily of the Hare Krishna mantra on *japa* beads and that you must strictly avoid illicit sex, meat eating, intoxication, and gambling. When you have demonstrated to your local ISKCON authority your seriousness for making a lifetime commitment to following these instructions, he will recommend you to the spiritual master as being quali-

fied for initiation and the spiritual master will then initiate you as his disciple."

(11/12/2010)

The procedure SAD describes here also occurred when Srila Prabhupada was on the planet, but then it meant that one became Srila Prabhupada's initiated disciple. Those who assisted the process, by performing the initiation were, after July 1977, called "*ritviks*". Now, however, simply due to the "*ritviks*" calling themselves "*diksa gurus*" via the label-switching hoax, the same process is used by SAD and other guru hoaxers to grab the disciples for themselves.

Book con

"Regarding where one can find a spiritual master, just as the foolish owl who with closed eyes asked the sun where he could find the sun, one should open his eyes and see that person who is already instructing him in the science of Krishna consciousness according to the *Bhagavad-gita* as it is. From such a bona fide spiritual master we should accept shelter, initiation, and instructions."

(17/12/2010)

It is SAD who needs to open his eyes and see that instruction "according to the *Bhagavad-gita* as it is" is obviously coming from Srila Prabhupada, the person named as the author of this book. When Srila Prabhupada was on the planet, many persons who joined the movement never met him, and were assisted in reading *Bhagavad-gita As It Is* and all his other books by his disciples. This process meant that Srila Prabhupada was the bona fide spiritual master, with those helping considered at best to be assisting *siksa* (instructing or preaching) gurus. This was the case because, as even SAD agrees above, since

Srila Prabhupada was already instructing everyone through his books, he was the bona fide spiritual master from whom one should accept shelter, initiation and instructions. Today, exactly the same process is going on, only now SAD and the other guru hoaxers claim that being instructed in Krishna consciousness according to *Bhagavad-gita As It Is* by Srila Prabhupada actually means they must surrender to SAD or anyone else who may assist one in understanding these instructions.

Teacher con

QUESTION: "How to Receive Guru's Training? There are millions of devotees of Krishna who do not know the process of transcendental meditation. This process is to be learned from a bona fide spiritual master on a one-on-one basis. Where are so many spiritual masters? Is there any alternative to a bona fide spiritual master? Could the process be explained through daily inspirational thoughts?"

SAD: "Especially Through His Vibrational Presence.

The spiritual master is not only present in his written word. He is also present in the form of his instructions. This is known as his vibrational presence. This is more important than physical meeting. So if even if you are not able to have a face to face meeting with the spiritual master, you can still take his guidance through personally corresponding with him and through his written and recorded instructions and be sufficiently guided how to achieve the supreme perfection."

(17/12/2010)

Just to complete this ludicrous label-switching hoax, SAD explains that it does not even matter if one is unable to personally meet the spiritual master, as one can take advantage of his written and recorded



Sankarshan Das:
Con guru

instructions. Indeed, this was the process when Srila Prabhupada was on the planet, with many of his disciples having neither ever met him, nor engaged in a correspondence exchange with him, but Srila Prabhupada was their *diksa* guru. Those who assisted others in taking this guidance from Srila Prabhupada were considered at best assistant *siksa* gurus. Today exactly the same process happens, with the bulk of teaching for members of ISKCON still coming from Srila Prabhupada's books and his other recorded and written instructions, but SAD and the other hoaxers simply call themselves *diksa* gurus, and take the disciples for themselves.

Conclusion

The above graphically demonstrates the absurdly simple label-switching technique used by the guru hoaxers. The guru hoaxers have simply claimed that doing the same activities, as they were done when Srila Prabhupada was on the planet, entitles them to magically call themselves *diksa* gurus, and relegate Srila Prabhupada to being at most a *siksa* guru. The reasons for this scam of course are obvious. *Diksa* gurus get disciples who worship them "as good as God", along with donations, personal service, etc. The very fact that Srila Prabhupada's position has been usurped in his own movement is of course outrageous. But the absurdly hypocritical and blatant cheating techniques used to do this, make the hijack ludicrous as well as disgraceful.

Another climbdown: HH Bhaktivaibhava Swami

BTP has continually highlighted how the IRM is winning the philosophical war, with one ISKCON leader after another being persuaded to adopt our position. Unfortunately, different types of trickery, such as the label-switching hoax (as mentioned in the previous article), are used to keep the guru hoax alive and prevent practical action from matching philosophical reality. The latest example below comes from GBC-elected guru hoaxer, HH Bhaktivaibhava Swami ("BVS"). All quotes below, in the shaded panels, come from an online exchange he had with his disciples.

Srila Prabhupada is the *diksa* guru

"Srila Prabhupada saved you because he is present among us through his books, lectures, letters, bhajans, etc. We all follow Srila Prabhupada. Therefore, he saved you and me."

(BVS, online discussion with disciple, 29/8/2010)

BVS directs the statement above to his disciple, stating that both have been delivered by Srila Prabhupada due to their following Srila Prabhupada. This describes the relationship between a *diksa* guru and his disciple:

"The spiritual master initiates the disciple to deliver him, and if the disciple executes the order of the spiritual master and does not offend other Vaisnavas, his path is clear."

(*Sri Caitanya-caritamṛta, Madhya-Lila*, 1:128, purport)

BVS is, therefore, effectively asserting that the status of himself and his disciple in relation to Srila Prabhupada in this regard, is identical.

Srila Prabhupada is the current link - 1

Sarvasukha Dasa: "Srila Gurudeva *ki-jaya!* Srila Prabhupada *ki-jaya!*"

Bhaktivaibhava Swami: "No, Srila Prabhupada *ki jaya* and then Gurudeva. You still don't get it."

Sarvasukha Dasa: "D Guru Maharaja, off course I understand the point :D I just wanted to worship U in the way, I was taught all the time... :)" (Online discussion with disciple, 29-30/8/2010)

BVS's disciple Sarvasukha Das here presents the standard system of honouring ISKCON *diksa* gurus, which he states is the way he has been taught, which acknowledges that they are approaching Srila Prabhupada via their own ISKCON *diksa* guru. This means that obeisances are paid in this order, as another guru hoaxer HH Bhakti Charu Swami ("BCS"), explains:

"you first offer your *pranam* to me and then to Srila Prabhupada, not first Srila Prabhupada and then me; I am taking you TO Srila Prabhupada; you are going to Srila Prabhupada through me, therefore you offer your *pranam* mantra to me first."

(BCS quoted by BCS secretary, 18/9/1999 and 10/8/2001)

BVS, however, insists that this order must be reversed, with Srila Prabhupada glorified first as if he were one's immediate guru.

Srila Prabhupada is the current link - 2

Bhaktivaibhava Swami: "Perfection for the eyes is to see Lord Krishna."

Madhurya Seva: "Yes, but allow us to see through your sight as yet..."

Bhaktivaibhava Swami: "We all depend on the mercy of Srila Prabhupada's transcendental vision, who gave Lord Krishna to the entire world."

Madhurya Seva: "O Maharaja! how is that?...i must apologize

to You...я не поняла...we receive the mercy of Srila Prabhupada's through You...but we are not r.....?"

Bhaktivaibhava Swami: "Everybody receives Srila Prabhupada's mercy directly through his teachings and his ISKCON society as Founder-Acarya."

(Online discussion with disciple, 27-28/9/2010)

Continuing with the "current link" theme of the previous entry, another disciple of BVS states the supposed standard understanding of the relationship between a disciple and their ISKCON *diksa* guru - that their guru is needed to connect them to the *parampara* (disciplic succession), and, therefore, to Srila Prabhupada, via being the current link in the disciplic succession. Therefore, Srila Prabhupada's mercy is received through them. BVS states that Srila Prabhupada's mercy is received directly through his teachings, rather than through him.

The "following" scam

Interspersed in the exchanges above, BVS also makes the following statements:

"We follow the Founder-Acarya and we serve our spiritual master. [...] Because the instruction of the spiritual master is to follow Srila Prabhupada. If we serve that instruction, our life will be perfect. [...] And the spiritual master gives for the disciple an example how to follow Srila Prabhupada."

(BVS, online discussion with disciple, 29/8/2010)

Having effectively stated that Srila Prabhupada is the *diksa* guru, BVS fabricates a position for himself as being the *diksa* guru in terms of having his disciples serve and worship him, with the

justifications above. His motivation appears to be that he is required to encourage his disciples to "follow" Srila Prabhupada. Srila Prabhupada explained the position of anyone who assists others to follow him:

"The GBC should all be the instructor gurus. I am in the initiator guru, and you should be the instructor guru by teaching what I am teaching and doing what I am doing. This is not a title, but you must actually come to this platform. This I want."

(Srila Prabhupada Letter, 4/8/1975)

Such a person is, therefore, at best, an instructing guru. This is obvious, since, when the GBC voted-in gurus order someone to follow and be guided by Srila Prabhupada, this means Srila Prabhupada is doing all of the work. Indeed, every person who has any contact with ISKCON; whether a Life Member, congregational member, neophyte *bhakta*, or guest; whether a follower of the IRM or GBC; tells anyone who will listen, that they should "follow Srila Prabhupada". So simply passing on the direction to someone to "follow Srila Prabhupada" does not mean that the person needs to then become our disciple and worship us "as good as God". Yet this is exactly what happens today in ISKCON, with ISKCON gurus justifying the guru hoax on the basis that they are needed to tell their disciples to "follow Srila Prabhupada".

Conclusion

Though more and more ISKCON guru hoaxers are surrendering to adopting our position, they will still not surrender their disciples and the associated benefits. Rather, they attempt to hold on to their positions with different childish tricks such as changing labels and claiming that activities carried out by any neophyte are *diksa* guru activities.

From half-guru to no-guru: more GBC nonsense

In the article titled "One foot in the *parampara* concoction" from the last issue of *BTP*, we cited the following 2010 statement from ISKCON's Governing Body Commission:

"It is our duty to inform you that Umapati prabhu is no longer authorized by the ISKCON society to serve as an initiating spiritual master and *sannyasi* within ISKCON [...] Disciples and followers who wish to do so may continue to consider Umapati prabhu their spiritual master and continue to take guidance from him." (GBC Statement, GBC meetings, 2010)

We commented that the GBC, in its statement, is claiming that the former Umapati Swami is simultaneously able to both not function, and function, as a *diksa* guru - a "half-guru", who has one foot in the *parampara* (disciplic succession of bona fide gurus), and one outside - by both not acting as an initiating spiritual master in ISKCON, and at the same time acting as an initiating spiritual master to his ISKCON disciples!

FROM HALF-GURU TO NO-GURU

Perhaps realising the farcical nature of Umapati's "half-guru" status, the GBC has now gone further, and defrocked him entirely of guruship:

"In recent years, accusations were presented to the GBC that Umapati Swami had violated the required standards of behavior for a Krishna Conscious leader. The GBC carefully considered these allegations and determined that Umapati Swami, now Umapati Dasa, shall no longer be accepted as a *sannyasi*, nor may he function as an initiating guru within our society." (GBC Statement on Umapati Das, 28/2/2011, released 13/4/2011)

As we will now detail, this bizarre series of events reveals just how spiritually-bankrupt ISKCON's guru hoax system and its management by the GBC has become.

DEViant INITIATIONS

The 2010 GBC "half-guru" statement, states that prior to 2010, Umapati had been deviating for a number of years:

"Umapati prabhu had misused his status as a guru to behave inappropriately with several male disciples over a number of years and that this behavior was of a sexual nature." (GBC Statement, GBC meetings, 2010)

However, the 2011 "no-guru" statement says that all initiations carried out by Umapati during this deviant period shall be considered bona fide:

"ISKCON will not recognize initiations given by Umapati Dasa after February 2010. Devotees initiated prior to this date are accepted as duly initiated members of ISKCON." (GBC Statement on Umapati Das, 28/2/2011, released 13/4/2011)

So the GBC is clearly saying that if you got initiated by a deviant, even during the period he was engaging in sexually deviant behaviour, such initiations shall be considered bona fide, and one shall be considered duly initiated. However, the GBC has already declared that a guru who has never deviated, Srila Prabhupada, cannot initiate! Therefore, the GBC's motto is:

Deviant guru – gives bona fide initiations. **Srila Prabhupada – cannot initiate.**

We have given many examples in our publications to illustrate Srila Prabhupada's statement that in this age of hypocrisy, known as *Kali-yuga*, everything is "topsy-turvy": **"Therefore, by the influence of the age of Kali, everywhere, politically, socially or religiously, everything is topsy-turvy, and therefore for the sane man it is all regrettable."** (*Srimad-Bhagavatam*, 1:16:22 purport). But the above example probably tops them all!

DEViant DEVOTEES

The 2011 "no-guru" statement also states that Umapati is still able to visit ISKCON centres:

"Umapati Dasa himself may visit ISKCON centers, but only with the prior permission of both the Temple President and GBC representative." (GBC Statement on Umapati Das, 28/2/2011, released 13/4/2011)

However, as we have documented in previous issues, IRM supporters are banned from entering ISKCON temples for stating that Srila Prabhupada is the guru of ISKCON. Therefore, with its statement on the ex-Umapati Swami, the GBC is saying that:

If you are a deviant, you are welcome. **If you are not a deviant, but believe in Srila Prabhupada as being the guru, you are not welcome.**
More "topsy-turvy" madness!

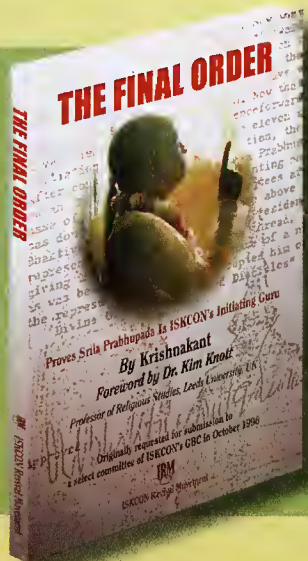
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From the Foreword by Professor
Kim Knott, Head of Religious Studies,
Leeds University, UK